

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-03 EUR-12 PA-02 ICA-20 SS-15
NSC-05 IO-14 OES-07 H-02 /091 R

DRAFTED BY AF/P:BARUSSELL:ADR
APPROVED BY AF/P:RWHOLLIDAY
-----044039 080059Z /66

R 062332Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
XMT AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY BANGUI
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY KIGALI
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

UNCLAS STATE 089239

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING, APRIL 6, 1978

FOLLOWING IS AN UNOICIAL, UNCORRECTED EXCERPT FROM
THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING. IF NECESSARY
OFFICIAL VERSION WILL FOLLOW.

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Q: -- SECRETARY OWEN YESTERDAY MADE A RATHER STRONG
STATEMENT ABOUT SOVIET-CUBAN INTERVENTION IN AFRICA --
SPECIFICALLY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA -- AND IN VIEW OF THE
SECRETARY'S TRIP DOWN THERE I WONDER WHETHER YOU COULD
ADDRESS THAT ISSUE ALSO; AND WHETHER YOU AGREE WITH THE
WORDS USED BY MR. OWEN ON THIS.

A: I'M SORRY. I ASKED FOR SOME GUIDANCE ABOUT THAT THIS MORNING, BUT I HAVE NO.

Q: THERE IS NO DOUBT IN YOUR MIND THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AND THE SECRETARY ARE VERY SINCERE AND STRONGLY OPPOSED TO THE PRESENCE OF CUBAN TROOPS IN AFRICA.

A: WE HAVE MADE OUR POSITION CLEAR ABOUT THAT.

Q: THEN WHY IS IT CUBAN FISHERMEN ARE BEING ALLOWED 10,000 TONS OF FISH DURING 1978 FROM THE 200-MILE U.S. ECONOMIC ZONE OFF THE ATLANTIC COAST.

A: LET ME TRY TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION.

Q: HAVE YOU GOT ANYTHING YOU CAN GIVE US OR ANNOUNCE ABOUT THE SECRETARY'S TRAVEL PLANS?

A: NO, I THINK I MAY HAVE SOMETHING TOMORROW AT NOON FOR YOU.

Q: YESTERDAY, DICK MOOSE SAW THE SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR. DID WE GET AN ANSWER FROM HIM ON THE NAMIBIA PLAN?

A: I HAVE NOTHING FOR YOU ON NAMIBIA. NO.

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Q: WHAT ABOUT MAC HENRY'S TRIP TO SOUTH AFRICA?

A: I THINK THE AMBASSADOR WAS DOWN THERE. HE WAS TRAVELING WITH THE PRESIDENT, AND HE TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO GO TO THE AREA, TO HAVE DISCUSSIONS WITH POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS IN NAMIBIA, TO SEE HOW PROGRESS WAS COMING ALONG ON THE PLANS TO RESOLVE THE NAMIBIAN QUESTION. AND I THINK HE IS NOW BACK IN NEW YORK THIS MONTH, WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

Q: DID HE SPEAK WITH SAM NUJOMO?

A: I DON'T BELIEVE HE DID, BUT I WOULD LIKE TO CHECK THAT.

Q: THE QUESTION WAS: WAS HE (CONGRESSMAN DIGGS) INVITED? IS THIS A CLAIM THAT CONGRESSMAN DIGGS WAS INVITED TO THE ARRIVAL AT DODAN BARRACKS? AND IF NOT, WHY NOT? WAS HE INVITED?

A: AS I GATHER FROM READING THAT STATEMENT EARLIER THIS MORNING, HE WAS THERE.

Q: I KNOW THAT.

A: AS TO THE QUESTION OF WHETHER HE WAS INVITED, I DO NOT
KNOW THE ANSWER.

Q: WELL, COULD YOU TAKE THAT QUESTION BECAUSE THAT IS THE
QUESTION I MEANT?

A: I THINK THAT QUESTION CAN BE VERY SUCCESSFULLY ANSWERED
BY THE CONGRESSMAN, WHO WOULD KNOW WHETHER HE WAS THE
RECIPIENT OF AN INVITATION OR NOT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE089239
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: BARUSSELL:ADR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780151-0739
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780484/aaaactcd.tel
Line Count: 127
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 43b6d4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3049380
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING, APRIL 6, 1978 FOLLOWING IS AN UNOICIAL, UNCORRECTED EXCERPT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING. IF NECE SS
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN
To: AF POSTS LONDON MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/43b6d4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014